

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 93 19:09:14 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #1112
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Sat, 18 Sep 93 Volume 93 : Issue 1112

Today's Topics:

 "Rate" on nicads?
 * MORSE CODE TABLE *
 9K2ZZ QSL?
 Alpha Brave; America Brazil;
 Antenna Covenants AGAIN (but now with a twist!)
 Any MARS Members???
 Mail-order companies?
 Morris Code
 need expert info on nicads. (2 msgs)
 NiCad kudos and advise
 Question about ni-cads (was Re: need expert info on nicads.)
 w1njm
 Who Wrote Scratchi?

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 17 Sep 1993 10:43:09 GMT
From: pipex!sunic!trane.uninett.no!news.eunet.no!nuug!news.eunet.fi!funic!
nokia.fi!caroline.trs.ntc.nokia.com!vahapassi@uunet.uu.net
Subject: "Rate" on nicads?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Sep17.001257.6512@trl.oz.au>, handers@rhea.trl.OZ.AU (Howard
Anders) writes:

> As long as you charge no faster than the 15hr rate i.e. Capacity in AH/10,

Silly me, but what is a "XX hr rate"? Say, a 600 mAh cell is charged at 60 mA, then what is the "rate"? What if the current is 100 mA?

Thanks for the info.
Jussi

Date: 17 Sep 93 20:59:33 GMT
From: mercury.hsi.com!a3bee2.radnet.com!cyphyn!randy@uunet.uu.net
Subject: * MORSE CODE TABLE *
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

mgc@unisl.c.sl.c.unisys.com (Marc Christensen) writes:
: Dave Bushong (dbushong@wang.com) wrote:
: : mgc@unisl.c.sl.c.unisys.com (Marc Christensen) writes:
: :
: : >to read "-..."
: : >NOW DON'T miss this point "THEY ARE BOTH PRONOUNCED dahdididit"
: :
: : Marc,
: :
: : How fast do you typically copy code? Many people who write dots and
: : dashes have a plateau around 10 wpm. ===== ?
: :
Wait...who is WRITING ...- down? That's just to explain it.

: I think the main problem with most of these persons is:
: They remember Dash Dot Dot Dot.
: They Hear Dah Di Di Dit.
: They Translate to Dash Dot Dot Dot.
: They Decode Dash Dot Dot Dot.
: They miss the next letter.
:
: Marc Christensen

I don't say this to be a wise guy, but to ME, it sounds like bip and beep
=====

If I SEE a . that's a bip
if I SEE a - that's a beep

However, as far as CW learning goes, once I knew the letters enough to not need a cheat chart, it was all bip and beep, no . or - marks.

I don't know my exact speed...I've not the foggiest idea (and as I am not looking to upgrade, only so to be able to QSO, is why I haven't timed myself).

But...if I have to write down EACH word/letter my RPM drops fast.

If I'm out in the other room and not writing it down, I can catch calls, and words ...but I can't store up a whole sentence in my head. Thus, while just waiting for a call, or some one I know, I can tell who is who, get the RST report --sometimes a name... or QTH they are in... all at a much faster clip, than when I have to write it down letter by letter....I can not write faster than 6-7 WPM...and type even worse!

I wonder then if that has PARTLY to do with it?

HOW in blazes do people DO 20 wpm writing it down? The copy must look awful!

--

Randy KA1UNW	If you get a shock while	
	servicing your equipment,	"Works for me!"
randy@192.153.4.200	DON'T JUMP!	-Peter Keyes
	You might break an expensive tube!	

Date: 17 Sep 1993 13:00:02 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!darwin.sura.net!haven.umd.edu!
cville-srv.wam.umd.edu!ham@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: 9K2ZZ QSL?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Anyone have the QSL route for 9K2ZZ (Kuwait)?

Worked last night around 2300z from Maryland.

Scott NF3I

--

73,	-----	-----	The
	\ /	Long	Original
Scott Rosenfeld	Amateur Radio NF3I	Burtonsville, MD	Live \$5.00
WAC CW/SSB WAS 95% of the way to DXCC ----- Dipoles! Antenna!			

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1993 11:46:07 GMT
From: mdisea!mothost!lmpsbbs!news@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Alpha Brave; America Brazil;
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

All this talk about pfunny fphonetics. . .

Try these:

AC4AB - Always Calling 4 Another Beer
KE4PT - Keyholes Exist 4 Peeping Toms
N4ZHP - Need 4 Zebras Horses (and) Ponies
KN4UW - Killowatt Needed 4 Unlimited Wonder

Our club call sign here in Florida is WA4LZR -
Never have had trouble with "Lightning Zaps Radios" to
get through a pile-up.

Seriously though, if you are going to pass formal written
traffic - especially in times of an emergency, the standard
pronouncements are virtually required. The practiced message handlers
have this well soaked in, probably to such a degree they
could copy in their sleep. Otherwise, do what works.

Bruce, WB4YUC, e1 YUCCO. . .

Date: 17 Sep 93 20:41:30 GMT
From: mercury.hsi.com!a3bee2.radnet.com!cyphyn!randy@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Antenna Covenants AGAIN (but now with a twist!)
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

dstock@hpgmoca.sqf.hp.com (David Stockton) writes:
: SALES SALES SALES SALES SALES SALES SALES SALES SALES SALES SALES SALES SALES
:
: The only word a property developer can hear....
:
: While there's a bit of a recession on, let's make the most of it.
:
: Visit a showhouse or two, and in passing, enquire about restrictions
: on external antennae etc. If you don't like the reply, just say, "Oh
: Well, that rules this place out then,..." don't lose your temper just
: look like a good prospect of a sale that walked out.
:
: Let's give 'em the idea they're losing sales <-----***
:
: and allow them to assume they're losing money. <-----***
:
: Cheers, <-----***
: David

This is TOO good to delete any part of it!

RIGHT ON! E X A C T L Y !

--

Randy KA1UNW If you get a shock while
 servicing your equipment, "Works for me!"
randy@192.153.4.200 DON'T JUMP! -Peter Keyes
 You might break an expensive tube!

Date: 18 Sep 93 03:39:37 GMT
From: cs.utexas.edu!math.ohio-state.edu!magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu!
usenet.ins.cwru.edu!skybridge!hernix!fmsystem!andrews@RUTGERS.EDU
Subject: Any MARS Members???
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I'm interested in chatting with any MARS members. MARS is the best
thing to happen to me yet in HAM Radio. So long...

--

Tell Me Something I Don't Know, ! HAM = N80FS
Show Me Something I Can Use, ! ARMY MARS = AAN5HJT
Push The Buttons, ! CB = THE NEON KNIGHT
Connect The God-Damn Dots!!! - Ministry ! HACKER = TH3 N30N KN1GHt

Date: Thu, 16 Sep 1993 20:12:26 GMT
From: news2.uunet.ca!ukma!ovation!ramcad.pica.army.mil!mellis@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Mail-order companies?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Are there any good mail-order companies for Amateur stuff?

If there are any, and some kind soul has the address for requesting
a catalog, please respond here or via email.

Thanks!

.... Mark Ellis <mellis@ramcad.pica.army.mil>
Awaiting callsign...3 days and counting :-[
PA&TD Workplace Automation Group
SMCAR-QAH-P, Bldg 62N, (201) 724-5817
Picatinny Arsenal, NJ

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1993 14:19:31 GMT
From: worldbank.org!gmiller@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Morris Code
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <2252@arrl.org>, bbattles@arrl.org (Brian Battles WS10) wrote:
>
> In rec.radio.amateur.misc, sassociation@worldbank.org (Gene C. Miller) writes:
>
> >In article <26dvdoINNfor@emx.cc.utexas.edu>, oo7@emx.cc.utexas.edu (Derek
> >Wills) wrote:
>
> >> robert@amanda.jpunix.com (robert somebody) complains:
>
> >> >>In fact, one even referred to it as "Morris." What a sad commentary
> >> >>on the educational ability of the Codeless Technician.
>
> >> So? - some of us perfessas wotte is well edickated and wotte
> >> is eggsta clarst, and use it nearly all the time at 30+ wpm,
> >> call it Morris too. You know that Albert Vail died in Morris
> >> County, doncha? Who needs any more prufe.
> >>
> >> And why do you think the people in rec.equestrian refer to their
> >> animals as Horace? Well, then.
> >>
> >> Derek "Morris fur ever" Wills (AA5BT, G3NMX)
>
> >Hmmm....I've been invited to an exhibition of Morris dancing. Should I
> >go?...Gene (KD3LT)
>
> Must be a form of tap dancing. But bring your Morris Cold Quay, just in
> case.
>

Tap dancing? Well, I've seen people jumping and yelling when they mis-tap
the keg and it sprays everywhere. Is that what you have in mind? It's never
seemed terribly organized to me, but then I'm no dancer...Gene

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 1993 23:29:53 GMT
From: sdd.hp.com!col.hp.com!fc.hp.com!myers@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: need expert info on nicads.
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Good Lord! Here we are on the NiCd memory myth (and all the junk that goes with it) AGAIN?

Unfortunately, I've lost the last lengthy posting I made on this subject (if anyone has a copy and is willing to e-mail and/or re-post it, I would be muchly appreciative!), but here's the short version, directed specifically at two items which came up in this thread:

1. No, there is no memory effect. A slightly longer and more accurate answer is that there IS one, but it is only observed under some VERY specific and rare conditions (the satellite example given earlier is the only documented instance I know), and essentially does not occur in consumer applications. What usually gets blamed on "memory" is damage or voltage depression through over-charging (if not voltage depression, damage from exceeding recommended temp. limits through excessive charge current and/or time).
2. Charging at the 0.1C rate is generally NOT considered acceptable for "trickle" charging (meaning something you can let go "forever.") The limits on trickle charge current vary from manufacturer to manufacturer and with the physical design of the cell (for one thing, by how well the cell dumps excess heat), but are generally around 0.02C to 0.05C. Note that these are the MAXIMUM currents for trickle-charging, not the recommended levels. You can quite often GET AWAY WITH leaving a NiCd battery on an 0.1C charger "forever" - meaning the thing won't rupture - but don't come complaining to me about "memory" problems later!

Bob Myers	KC0EW	Hewlett-Packard Co.	Opinions expressed here are not
		Advanced Systems Division	those of my employer or any other
myers@fc.hp.com		Fort Collins, Colorado	sentient life-form on this planet.

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1993 13:30:23 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!gatech!kd4nc!ke4zv!
gary@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: need expert info on nicads.
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Sep16.201619.9165@cyphyn.radnet.com> randy@cyphyn.radnet.com
(Randy) writes:

```
>gary sed    ( some snipped out)
>
>: It's best to deep discharge individual cells. That way you can safely
>: go all the way down to zero volts.
>:
>: Gary
```

> To zero? I thought it was unwise to run them down to zero.
>
>Or am I thinking of lead acid cells?

You don't want to discharge a *battery*, a group of cells, down to zero because of the danger that the weakest cell will reverse and be damaged. But individual cells can be safely discharged to zero since there's no other source of current connected that can reverse them.

Gary

--

Gary Coffman KE4ZV	"If 10% is good enough	gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems	for Jesus, it's good	uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way	enough for Uncle Sam."	emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
Lawrenceville, GA 30244	-Ray Stevens	

Date: 17 Sep 93 13:40:42 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!agate!spool.mu.edu!darwin.sura.net!dtix.dt.navy.mil!oasys!
kstuart@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: NiCad kudos and advise
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I've been following the thread on NiCads, and want to pass congratulations to Greg Thoman on his accurate and thorough replies. Saved me a lot of typing...

However, I would like to pass along a warning which, so far, seems to have been overlooked. In fact, perhaps many instances of killed NiCad packs can be traced to this particular practice -

My IC2-GAT has the typical low-battery warning light which kicks on to indicate that I'm running out of battery. Of course, this is common to the general breed of H/T's that we all use. On the ICOM, this indicator does not light when a fully charged pack is attached and the rig placed into operation, NO MATTER WHAT THE VOLTAGE OF THE PACK HAPPENS TO BE (voltage rating, that is). This indicator only gives a warning when the H/T has insufficient voltage (or is approaching insufficient voltage) for continuing operation.

Therefore, the low battery warning is activated when several of the cells in the pack are already in the reversed state!!!

This means that if I wait for the "low battery" indicator to flash, I am already reducing the life of my battery!

My practice is to never permit the battery to discharge to anywhere

near this level, but to swap batteries before this happens. For instance, on an all day event, where I know that my battery will give about 5 hours of operation, I will change to a fresh pack after about 4 hours. This will prevent cell reversal if the cells in the pack are reasonably equal in capacity. After the event, all packs are fully recharged at the conventional C/10 rate.

Remember, the "low battery" warning in H/T's is not engineered to tell you when the first cell (weakest) in the pack has fully discharged!

73.

Ken Stuart, W3VVN
ARRL TA on batteries and power supplies
kstuart@oasys.dt.navy.mil

Date: 19 Sep 93 01:26:53 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: Question about ni-cads (was Re: need expert info on nicads.)
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

>I can't figure out why every manufacturer needs to use his own custom,
>proprietary, ni-cad battery pack. Years ago they settled on a set of
>standard sizes (D, C, AA, AAA, and 9 volt, etc) for regular batteries.
>Why can't they do the same thing for ni-cad battery packs???

two things i can think of:

brand loyalty

(can't use sony parts on a panasonic)

guaranteed spare parts sales/forced upgrades..

(well, ok, it's THREE reasons..and no one expected the Spanish Inquisition either).

the last reason is the one that hams should really beat up the equipment suppliers on. all a Yaesu or Kenwood has to do is to declare a battery pack "obsolete" and presto - you have a perfectly good radio that can't be repaired (well not with factory parts...)

Yaesu almost has it right with the alkaline cell holders except there needs to

be a nicad cell holder (for that 1 more battery to get the equivalent voltage up)....could even be universal with a switch to permit using either battery type. this way we could use our own recharable cells and toss the bad ones as they fail rather than entire packs...

>Imagine if every flashlight needed a different size battery. WHAT A MESS!!

if there was one thing that you might be able to beat up the manufacturers for is this planned uninteroperability...(wow! now THAT's a word!). RCA with the large hole 45 and the 45-only record players f'instance. All the computer manufacturers - just how many ways are there to do RS-232? seems like everyone finds a new way.

If the overseas manufacturers really wanted to throw things for a loop, they would develop standard parts that were interchangeable. but doing that means that everything will look about the same & there'll be less of a difference between your product and the other guy. can't have that. eats into the profits.

would seem like there would be an opening for 3rd party batteries for things like camcorders but the market probably sees enough design jitter to keep someone from being able to make a few models profitably.

maybe some of the MBAs need to actually have to use their company's products for awhile and have to discover what it's like to find you don't have the right plug or something that prevents you from using your equipment with someelses even tho the two machines are otherwise fully compatible...

73, bill wb9ivr%pubs%genav.mlb@ns14.cca.cr.rockwell.com
wenewkir@crems.cr.rockwell.com

Date: 17 Sep 1993 07:40:53 -0400
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!darwin.sura.net!
dtix.dt.navy.mil!cs.umd.edu!kong.gsfc.nasa.gov!vilya!mcintosh@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: w1njm
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I have tried for almost two weeks, four sessions, to find w1njm's high speed cw sessions on ~7023. No joy. Hope he is not unwell as I've found the sessions very helpful.

73
Ken, w3pnt

.

Date: 18 Sep 1993 11:26:09 -0400
From: agate!howland.reston.ans.net!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!ukma!mthvax.cs.miami.edu!
not-for-mail@ames.arpa
Subject: Who Wrote Scratchi?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

>>such as the time Scratchi found that the white dividing line on roads
>>was slightly conductive, so described a way of feeding it on 75 meter
>>mobile, with highly variable results.

I recall the one where he bought some bargain black box
at the hamfest.

So he took it home, twiddled with the {unlabeled} knobs....
and the airliner landed in his back yard...

--
A host is a host from coast to coast.....wb8foz@mthvax.cs.miami.edu
& no one will talk to a host that's close.....[301] 56-LINUX
Unless the host (that isn't close).....pob 1433
is busy, hung or dead.....20915-1433

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1993 14:10:22 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!
library.ucla.edu!news.mic.ucla.edu!unixg.ubc.ca!unixg.ubc.ca!nntp.cs.ubc.ca!
mprgate!bryant@network.ucsd.edu
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1993Sep15.224024.9374@ke4zv.atl.ga.us>,
<willmore.74822237@trempllo.gis.iastate.edu>, <27cf77\$7d1@bigguy.eng.ufl.edu>
Subject : White Noise Generator

I recently found (during a very hot spell) that sleeping with a fan on
in the room let me sleep much more soundly, as it effectively blocked
any noises coming in through the window. (birds, train noise, etc.)

I am now looking for a simple circuit which will generate a white
noise signal, suitable for the AUX input of a spare amplifier I own.

Does anyone have a _proven_ circuit they would care to share?

Thanks --

--

=====|=====

* Nick Bryant, Communications Engineer	Opinions expressed are those of
* MPR Teltech Ltd. Burnaby, B.C. Canada	the sender, and do not reflect

* bryant@mprgate.mpr.ca 604-293-5319 | MPR Teltech policy or agreement.

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1993 14:32:28 GMT
From: das.wang.com!wang!dbushong@uunet.uu.net
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1993Sep14.210105.4653@unislcl.slcl.unisys.com>, <CDEyMC.HrG@wang.com>,
<1993Sep16.172154.4542@unislcl.slcl.unisys.com>
Subject : Re: * MORSE CODE TABLE *

mgc@unislcl.slcl.unisys.com (Marc Christensen) writes:

>Dave Bushong (dbushong@wang.com) wrote:
>: mgc@unislcl.slcl.unisys.com (Marc Christensen) writes:

>: >I see this argument over and over, but...
>: >My brain has a hard time parsing "dahdididit", it is much easier for me
>: >to read "-..."
>: >NOW DON'T miss this point "THEY ARE BOTH PRONOUNCED dahdididit"

>: Marc,

>: How fast do you typically copy code? Many people who write dots and
>: dashes have a plateau around 10 wpm.

>I think the main problem with most of these persons is:
>They remember Dash Dot Dot Dot.
>They Hear Dah Di Di Dit.
>They Translate to Dash Dot Dot Dot.
>They Decode Dash Dot Dot Dot.
>They miss the next letter.

>I don't typically copy code. It has probably been 10 Years.

>Marc Christensen

I think you called it right, Marc. And when they do miss that 'next letter', then get upset and that might cause them to miss the next one also, especially if it's at a test session.

I write 'dah' and 'dit' if I ever have to write CW for some reason. And in those cases where I see dots and dashes on bumper stickers, billboards, or whatever, I have to sound it out before I can understand what it says.

I routinely copy code at around 40 wpm.

And (oh, no, he's about to change the subject) I'm not one of the "CW vs. no CW" crusaders. I compare CW to knowing and using Spanish. I learned both 'languages' in Jr. High school, and use either or both whenever I feel like it, providing, of course, that there is someone around with whom to converse.

I suppose I'd be equally as mad if someone forced me to use CW, as I would if they took away my means or privilege to do so. But I suppose that is flame-war material, and I probably shouldn't have brought it up.

73,
Dave

--

Dave Bushong, Wang Laboratories, Inc. Amateur Radio Callsign KZ1O
Project Leader, Recognition products kz1o@n0ary.#noca.ca.na
Internet: dbushong@wang.com ARRL VE // W5YI VE

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 1993 12:23:08 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!darwin.sura.net!
rsg1.er.usgs.gov!dgg.cr.usgs.gov!bodoh@network.ucsd.edu
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1993Sep12.164319.1@wctsub.ctstateu.edu>, <CDG442.Gz9@ms.uky.edu>,
<930916.174552.9p5.rusnews.w165w@mulvey.com>
Subject : Re: It's been over 24 hours, should I phone?

In article <930916.174552.9p5.rusnews.w165w@mulvey.com>, rich@mulvey.com (Rich Mulvey) writes:

|> miles@ms.uky.edu (Stephen D. Grant) writes:

|>

|> > ritterbus001@wctsub.ctstateu.edu writes:

|> >

|> >>The sales guy convinced me that the TSP plan was a Good Idea, since
|> >>a portable unit such as that was subject to breakage from dropping,
|> >>kids, etc., and that RS would repair under these conditions. In
|> >>checking the full sheet on the TSP, it said that repairs due to
|> >>accidents were _not_ covered, and I wonder if anybody has had any
|> >>experience with this?

|> >

|> > I had the same experience recently. My brother and I bought some items
|> > and the store manager put the hard-sell on the TSP service plan.
|> > He explained how it would REPLACE either unit whether dropped,
|> > or by whatever accident. He even mentioned dropping it in water!
|> > Later at home, I read the fine print too.

|> > Of course they get primo commission for selling these TSP's.
|> >
|>
|> I had the same hard-sell experience. I was highly amused when, a month
|> after I bought the HTX, I got a letter in the mail from RS saying that
|> they would give me "One last chance to purchase the service plan." :-)
|>
|> - Rich
|>
|> --
|> Rich Mulvey Amateur Radio: N2VDS 787 Elmwood Terrace
|> rich@mulvey.com "Ignorance should be painful." Rochester, NY 14620

What I *love* to do at Radio Shack, Sears or Best buy is let them extol the
sturdiness of their product and then when they start trying to sell the
extended warantee, I ask them "Gee, which is it? First you tell me how
reliable it is, and then you tell me it's gonna break so I should buy this
extended warantee. If it's that unreliable maybe I should look elsewhere...".

They usually get all flustered and then back down on the hard sell on the
warantee...

--
+++++
+ Tom Bodoh - Sr. systems software engineer, Hughes STX, N0YGT +
+ USGS/EROS Data Center, Sioux Falls, SD, USA 57198 (605) 594-6830 +
+ Internet; bodoh@dgg.cr.usgs.gov (152.61.192.66)
+
+ "Welcome back my friends to the show that never ends!" EL&P
+
+++++

End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #1112
